



Minutes **Nevada Homeland Security Commission** **Finance Committee**

ATTENDANCE

DATE	17 August, 2005
TIME	9:00 AM – 10:48 AM
LOCATION	401 S Carson St – Carson City 555 W Washington – Las Vegas
METHOD	Teleconference between sites
RECORDER	Denise Parsons

Committee Members	Present	Staff & Others in Attendance	Present
Robert Hadfield, Chariman	X	Glade Myler, Attorney General's Office	X
James Spinello	X	Frank Siracusa, Director DEM	X
William Young	X	Kamala Carmazzi, Deputy Director DEM	X
Dale Carrison		James Sudderth, Keystone International, UNLV ISS	X
Maureen Peckman		Eric Young, Finance Officer, DEM	X
		Keith Monroe, Governor's Office	X
		Giles Vanderhoof, Administrator, Homeland Security Administrators Office	X
		Valerie Sumner, Homeland Security Administrators Office	X
		Larry Casey, Homeland Security Commission Staff	X
		Denise Parsons, Homeland Security Commission Staff	X

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

At 9:00 am Chairman Robert Hadfield called the meeting to order. Official Roll wasn't called until 9:56 am since Sheriff Young was unavoidably detained and a quorum could not be established until his arrival.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Chairman Robert Hadfield stated that approval of the minutes would be voted on later in the meeting after Sheriff Young's arrival and a quorum had been established.

3. COMMENTS BY THE CHAIRMAN

Chairman Robert Hadfield stated that establishing a quorum would be delayed until the arrival of Sheriff Young.

Jim Spinello gave a brief summary of the SLGCP Western Conference recently held in San Francisco regarding updates on assessments & strategies and national preparedness goals for Grant Cycle 06.

- Grants are competitive – no formula for states to use.
- Grants will be based on a qualitative assessment – funding requests will be aimed at filling the gaps in current plans.

Mr. Siracusa concurred, and stated that grant funds will be strategically aimed. A 9-30-05 deadline has been established for updating strategy, with the grant award occurring in either February or March. A comprehensive assessment – including all previous assessments – will be required to set all future grant allocations.

4. PROGRESS REPORT OF ALL OFFICE OF DOMESTIC PREPAREDNESS (ODP) GRANTS ALLOCATED BY THE NEVADA DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TO INCLUDE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS, TRIBAL NATIONS AND STATE GOVERNMENT FOR CONSIDERATION OF THE COMMISSION OF HOMELAND SECURITY, FINANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Siracusa gave a brief overview of Homeland Security Grant Program for FY05 and stated that it was too early to know how much had been spent. Regarding FY04 grant program, Mr. Siracusa stated that 94% of Grant monies had been spent and he felt confident that the State would be granted an extension due to the length of time required to acquire new materials.

Kamala Carmazzi gave a brief overview of the new grant program. She recommended that due to heightened alert levels, the Finance Committee should make a formal recommendation to the entire Commission that a certain amount of FY06 funds be retained for use for incidents occurring during elevated alerts. She stated that the cost per incident is \$200K to \$300K. She stressed the need to have a formal recommendation to the Commission at the next meeting on September 13th.

Mr. Spinello asked if UASI funds would be included? Ms. Carmazzi replied that she didn't think that they would. However, the Grant criteria would change for FY06.

Ms. Carmazzi stated that the majority of the jurisdictions in the State had spent the bulk of their grant money on equipment. Therefore, on behalf on DEM she would like to recommend to the Finance Committee that they make a formal recommendation to the Commission that would require each entity receiving grant money, budget in at least one planning and training initiative when requesting funding.

Chairman Hadfield concurred and stated that he didn't think the Commission would have a problem with this recommendation.

Mr. Spinello concurred and stated that the Commission needs to send a message to the State that elected and service members need to get serious about participating in planning and training initiatives.

Ms. Carmazzi stated that she recently attended an audit on FY04 funds and that a “classified report” would be forthcoming.

Chairman Hadfield introduced Gonzalo Cordova, Protective Security Advisor with DHS, as the newest member appointed to the Homeland Security Commission.

The Chairman called for a 5-minute break.

The meeting reconvened at 9:56 am.

Chairman Hadfield asked Mr. Casey to read the roll call to establish a quorum. Sheriff Young had arrived and a quorum was established.

Chairman Hadfield requested a delay in approving the minutes until the end of the meeting.

5. STATUS OF THE STATEWIDE VULNERABILITY ASSESSMENT

Mr. James Sudderth of Keystone International and UNLV Institute of Security Studies gave a presentation regarding the status of the vulnerability assessment. Following the introduction of his team members, he stated that the Vulnerability Assessment would be utilized to develop a State Homeland Security Assessment Strategy that would aid in the preparation of the FY06 Security Budget submission.

Mr. Sudderth gave the following timeline:

- August 1, 2005 – begin preparation.
- September 2, 2005 – data collection from the municipalities until either November or December of 2005.
- January 2006 – present written report to the Commission.

Mr. Sudderth stated that a set of working documents would be provided to each jurisdiction prior to a visit by his team. He also stated that members of his team would be assisting the LEPCs in completing the forms.

Chairman Hadfield asked, “How can the Commission ensure that the information contained in the Vulnerability Assessment remain confidential?”

Mr. Myler replied that 239c allows the Governor to declare documents confidential. He recommended the Commission make a formal request to the Governor’s Office.

Keith Monroe (AG official representing the Governor's office) stated that he considered the request made and he will present it to the Governor's Office.

Mr. Sudderth stated that a list of threats would be prepared for each jurisdiction. Each threat would be listed and given a numerical threat level. He stated that they would list as many vulnerabilities as they could and would have at least one facility listed per jurisdiction.

Sheriff Young asked if the assessment would be an overall picture of the vulnerabilities in the state and not just buildings, specifically, the tourism corridor?

Mr. Sudderth replied that the modelers will list the vulnerabilities by zip code and they will not just be looking at buildings. They will examine the entire tourism corridor.

He also stated that completion of the vulnerability assessment would require the cooperation and support of a variety of organizations including: all police and sheriff departments, fire departments, DEM, DOE, DOD, National Guard Bureau, Bureau of Reclamation, DOT, the US Attorney and the FBI.

Mr. Myler stated that previous surveys were completed that didn't have full participation. How would UNLV ensure participation?

Mr. Sudderth replied that UNLV will go to the Commission if they require assistance. He also stated that UNLV will look at accountability management, training and exercises with neighboring states. In addition, UNLV would examine interstate compacts that would allow Nevada to leverage from its neighboring states.

Chairman Hadfield stated that Mr. Sudderth did an excellent job with his presentation and vowed that the commission would provide assistance as requested.

6. UPDATE ON RECENT OF PENDING ISSUES

Ms. Carmazzi re-stated for the benefit of Sheriff Young, that in FY06, planning and training exercise initiatives will be included in the funding formula, and less emphasis will be placed on the purchase of equipment. She suggested that a formal recommendation go the commission on this issue.

Chairman Hadfield concurred, and stated that the LEPCs should be notified that training and planning needs to included for FY06 allocation and distribution of funds.

Sheriff Young suggested that DEM present a status of strategic planning at the next Commission meeting.

Ms. Carmazzi concurred.

General Vanderhoof stated that he would be giving an update of the State Security Strategy at the next Commission meeting.

Chairman Hadfield stated that it was unrealistic to figure new funding formula at this time without a report on the status of strategies.

Ms. Carmazzi stated that the CIP funds would be going away. 100% of funds that are obligated to equipment purchases would not be available.

Sheriff Young recommended that Clark County use UASI money for yellow and orange alerts.

Ms. Carmazzi concurred and stated that UASI funds are utilized solely at the discretion of Clark County.

Mr. Siracusa stated that he had no idea when Nevada would receive their Grant Award for FY06 dollars.

Chairman Hadfield stated that if a special meeting of the finance committee was needed that it would be possible.

Chairman Hadfield recommended to the committee to maintain the current formula. It was seconded.

Mr. Spinello asked if they are changing the allocation for UASI funds?

Mr. Siracusa replied their main concern was that there would be significant changes and that there wasn't time to get the new formula in place before the vulnerability assessment.

Mr. Spinello stated that funds will be allocated on an application basis – not just awarded to each state. Funding would only be approved for projects requested fitting their criteria.

Sheriff Young stated that there needs to be another meeting of the finance committee.

Chairman Hadfield motioned to approve the minutes of the last meeting. It was seconded. Minutes were approved as submitted.

7. PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

Mr. Spinello stated that DEM needs to find out about the new methodology and present it to the full Commission.

Ms. Carmazzi stated that there was no standardization used to determine vulnerability, risk, and threat. She mentioned the two bills that have been proposed that are requesting tourism become a part of the funding formula.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 10:48 am.

Meeting notes completed by Denise Parsons. For questions call (702) 632-0509 or email deniseparsons@state.nv.us. An audio CD of this meeting is available for review upon request.